

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The drawings were objected to as informal. PTO-948 was checked to indicate that the character of the lines, numbers & letters were not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable and black (poor line quality) for Figures 1-20.

Replacement sheets for Figures 1-20 are attached here to as substitute drawings for the informal drawings originally submitted. The Replacement sheets for Figures 1-20 include changes to correct the items objected to in the drawings, specifically the character of the lines, numbers and letters have been made uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable and black, correcting poor line quality where necessary for Figures 1-20.

Each sheet of replacement drawings is identified by the legend **REPLACEMENT SHEET** in the margin.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above listed claim amendments along with the following remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action set forth above. Claims 1- 48 were pending. Claims 1-13 and 31 – 33 are elected and have been allowed. Claims 1 and have been amended and claims 46 - 48 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 14, 17, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 34-39, and 41-43 have been amended.

Ratification of Election

Applicants hereby ratify the telephone election of Group I claims 1-13 and 31 – 33.

Non-elected independent claims have been amended to either depend from elected allowed claims or to include all of the limitations of an allowed claim.

Amendments

The title has been amended to comply with paragraph 14 of the Office Action.

Claim 1 has been amended to delete inadvertent duplication of the word “portion” in several locations; there is no change in the scope of claim 1 made by this amendment.

Claim 14 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to delete certain limitations. Claim 14 is allowable because claim 1 is allowable, and because it contains the limitation of a polymer guide member guiding the movable clamp assembly with reduced noise and friction.

Claim 17 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to delete certain limitations. Claim 17 is allowable because claim 1 is allowable, and because it recites a yoke assembly having a pair of paint splash guards.

Claim 22 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to delete certain limitations. Claim 22 is allowable because claim 1 is allowable, and because it recites another aspect in which the axis for rotation of the frame is offset with respect to the center of mass of the frame such that the frame will come to rest in a generally upright position after mixing.

Claim 24 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to delete certain limitations.

Claim 24 is allowable because claim 1 is allowable, and because it recites that the first plate includes a raised periphery with a relief.

Claim 26 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to delete certain limitations. Claim 26 is allowable because claim 1 is allowable, and because it recites another aspect in which a main drive is connected to the rotatable frame to rotate the frame about a first axis concentric with a stationary gear, and a gear train is mounted on the rotatable frame and has a planet gear in engagement with the stationary gear and is connected to rotate a paint container located in the frame about a second axis, and a common base has the main drive and stationary gear rigidly mounted thereto to maintain a desired engagement between the stationary gear and the planet gear.

Claim 28 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to delete certain limitations. Claim 28 is allowable because claim 1 is allowable, and because it recites another aspect in which a gear train is mounted on the rotatable frame for rotating a paint container in the frame about a second axis and has a gear ratio between the rotations of the frame about the first axis and the rotations of the paint container about the second axis is an integer number.

Claim 30 has been amended to now recite that the paint container rests on the first plate, and the first plate has a raised periphery with a relief to make claim 30 consistent with the language of amended claim 28.

Claim 34 has been amended to include the limitations of allowed claim 31; for this reason and because amended claim 34 retains the limitations of original claim 34, it is allowable.

Claim 35 has been amended to now depend from claim 34 and to delete certain language and is thus allowable.

Claim 36 has been amended to now depend from claim 34, with certain language deleted and other language added and is thus allowable.

Claim 37 has been amended to conform to the amended form of claim 36 from which it depends, and is thus allowable.

Claim 38 has been amended to conform to the amended form of claim 37 from which it depends, and is thus allowable.

Claim 39 has been amended to depend from and conform to claim 34 and is thus allowable.

Claim 41 depends from claim 39 and has been amended to conform to the amendment made to claim 39 and is thus allowable.

Claim 42 depends from claim 41 and has been amended to conform to the amendment made to claim 39 and is thus allowable.

Claim 43 has been amended to depend from and conform to claim 1 and is thus allowable.

Conclusion

All pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

THOMAS J. MIDAS et al.

By:



John M. Haurykiewicz, #29,311
Customer No. 25764
612/766-8216

Dated: June 20, 2006

M2:20796185.01

Serial No.: 10/809,890